

Chapter 1. What is the Socio-demographic Profile of Massachusetts?

Chapter 1 presents socio-demographic data collected by the US Census Bureau and analyzed by the HIV/AIDS Bureau and the Bureau of Health Statistics, Research, and Evaluation (BHSR&E) of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). These data describe the racial/ethnic distribution of the Massachusetts population and measures of socioeconomic status. This delineation of the Massachusetts population is meant to elucidate the social, economic and cultural context of HIV infection and AIDS in the state.

Comparable socioeconomic data for the United States population as a whole are also provided to give a national context. These data show that the Massachusetts population has a similar age distribution and a lower percentage of Blacks and Hispanics than the nation as a whole. The level of economic disparity across racial and ethnic minorities in Massachusetts is similar to that seen in the United States as a whole. In some instances, the disparity across race/ethnicity is greater in Massachusetts than in the nation. For example, in 2000 the median income of Whites was 1.9 times that of Hispanics in Massachusetts, while it was only 1.5 times that of Hispanics in the nation.

While “race/ethnicity and some socioeconomic variables, such as income or crowding, are clearly markers for HIV/AIDS risk and not risk factors themselves”¹, research has indicated that “economic deprivation and population density are powerful determinants of AIDS incidence.”² Racial and ethnic disparities in HIV/AIDS rates have been documented statewide³ and nationally⁴. As such, the socio-demographic data that follow may help to identify groups at elevated risk of HIV.

¹ Hu D; Frey R; Costa S; Massey J; Ryan J; Fleming P; D’Errico S; Ward J; Buehler J. “Geographical AIDS Rates and Socio-Demographic Variables in the Newark, New Jersey Metropolitan Area.” *AIDS & Public Policy Journal*. Spring 1994; 9:20-25

² Zierler S; Krieger N; Tang Y; Coady W; Siegfried E; DeMaria A; Auerbach J. “Economic Deprivation and AIDS Incidence in Massachusetts.” *American Journal of Public Health*. July 2000, Vol. 90, No. 7, 1064-1073.

³ Massachusetts Department of Public Health HIV/AIDS Bureau. “HIV/AIDS in Massachusetts: An Epidemiologic Profile.” November 2002.

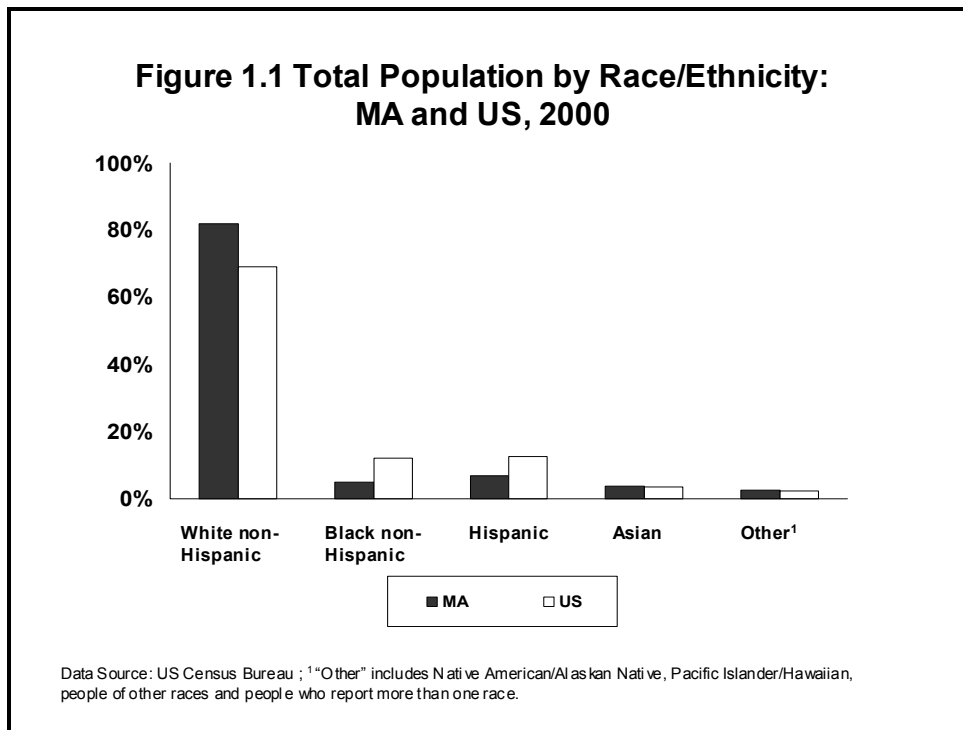
⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention. U.S. HIV and AIDS cases reported through December 2001. Year-end edition Vol.13, No.2

Table 1.1 Total Population Demographics: MA and US		
<i>1990 and 2000 Census Data</i>		
	MA	US
Total Population 2000	6,349,097	281,421,096
Percent Population Increase 1990-2000	5.5%	13.1%
Persons per Square Mile	809.8	79.6
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000		

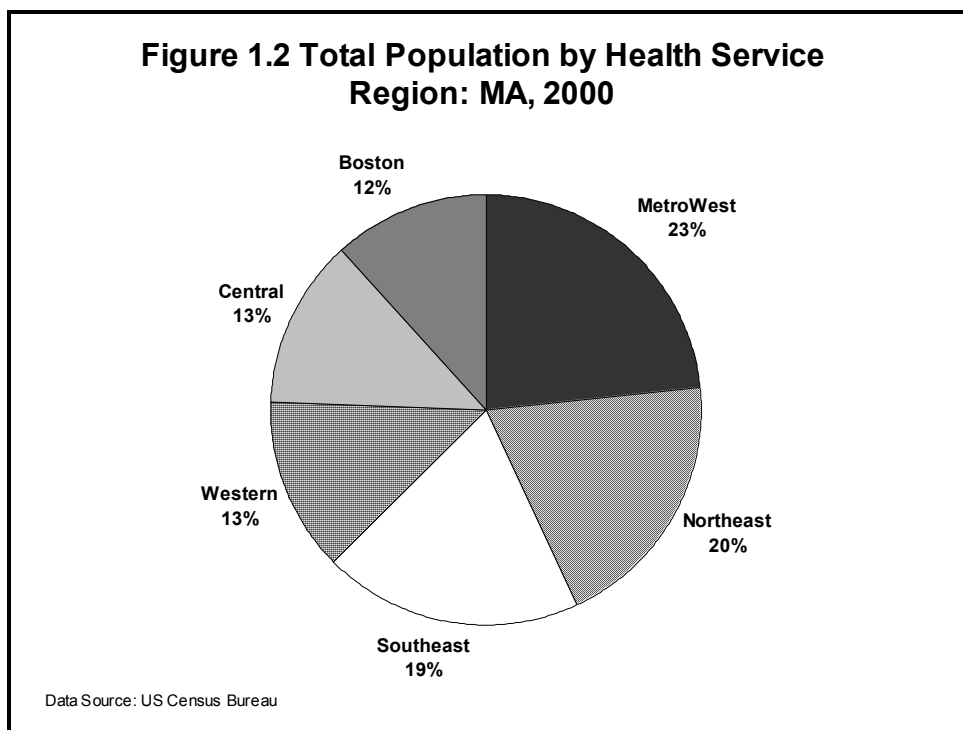
- The total population of Massachusetts in 2000 was 6,349,097.
- Massachusetts' growth rate from 1990 to 2000 was less than one-half the rate of the entire US (5.5% to 13.1% respectively).
- Massachusetts is a very densely populated state with 809.8 persons per square mile.

Table 1.2 Population Demographics - Gender, Age and Race/Ethnicity: MA and US <i>2000 Census Data</i>			
Total Population by Gender:	MA (Number)	MA %	US %
Male	3,058,816	48%	49%
Female	3,290,281	52%	51%
Total Population by Age, in Years:	MA (Number)	MA %	US %
Under 15	1,259,376	19%	21%
15 to 19	415,737	7%	7%
20 to 24	404,279	6%	7%
25 to 34	926,788	15%	14%
35 to 44	1,062,995	17%	16%
45 to 54	873,535	14%	13%
55 to 64	546,407	9%	9%
65 to 74	427,830	7%	7%
75 to 84	315,640	5%	4%
85+	116,692	2%	2%
Total Population by Race/Ethnicity:	MA (Number)	MA %	US %
White (non-Hispanic)	5,198,359	82%	69%
Black (non-Hispanic)	318,329	5%	12%
Hispanic/Latino	428,729	7%	13%
Asian	236,786	4%	4%
American Indian and Alaska Native	11,264	0.2%	0.7%
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	1,706	<0.1%	0.1%
Persons reporting some other race	43,586	0.7%	0.2%
Persons reporting two or more races	110,338	2%	2%
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000			

- The Massachusetts population is slightly older than that of the US as a whole.
- The greatest percentage of people in both Massachusetts and the US are under 15 years of age.
- About 82% of all Massachusetts residents identify themselves as White non-Hispanic, nearly 7% are Hispanic or Latino, 5% are Black non-Hispanic, and 1.7% report they belong to two or more racial groups.



- In terms of the racial distribution of its residents, Massachusetts has a less racially diverse population than the US as a whole.



- The state is divided into Health Service Regions (HSRs) for purposes of planning and resource allocation. The Metrowest HSR, which includes the cities and towns of Cambridge, Framingham, Braintree and Quincy, has the largest proportion of the Massachusetts population (23%) followed by the Northeast (20%) and Southeast (19%).

See Table A.1 in Appendix 1 for further detail and Appendix 4 for maps of HSRs

Table 1.3 Total Population by Health Service Region (HSR) and Race/Ethnicity: MA
2000 Census Data

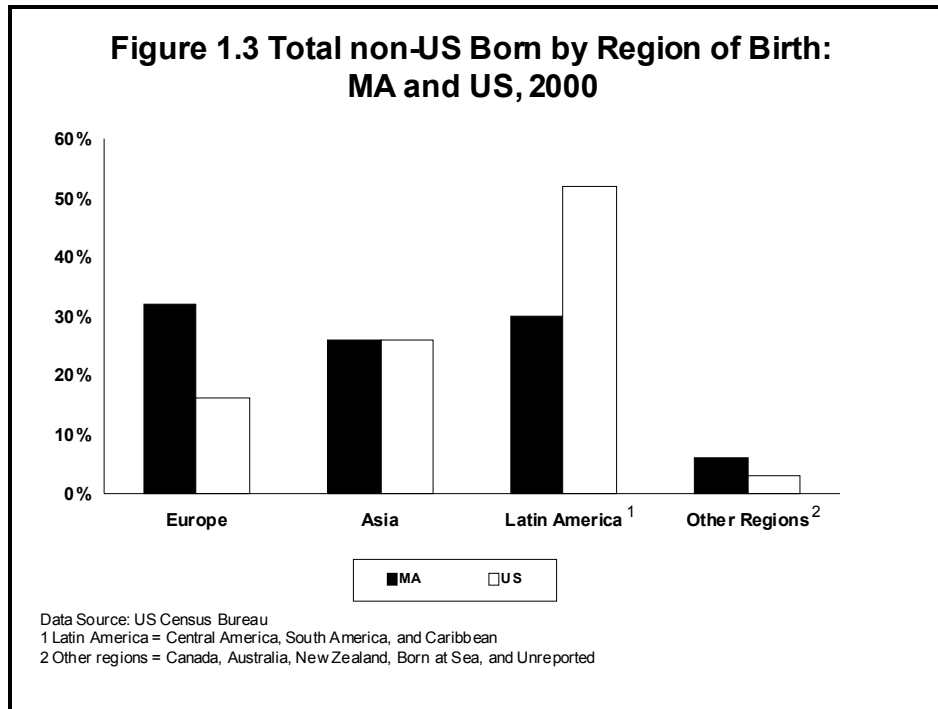
HSR	White NH	Black NH	His- panic	API	AI/AN	Other	>1	Total N
Western HSR	82%	5%	10%	2%	<1%	<1%	1%	822,838
Central HSR	87%	2%	6%	2%	<1%	<1%	1%	806,015
Northeast HSR	83%	2%	8%	4%	<1%	<1%	1%	1,255,346
Metrowest HSR	86%	3%	3%	6%	<1%	<1%	2%	1,479,930
Southeast HSR	89%	3%	3%	1%	<1%	2%	2%	1,238,054
Boston HSR	54%	19%	15%	7%	<1%	1%	3%	746,914
MA Total	82%	5%	7%	4%	<1%	0%	1%	6,349,097

NH=Non-Hispanic, API=Asian/Pacific Islander, AI/AN= American Indian/Alaska Native
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file

- The Boston Health Service Region (HSR) has the smallest relative proportion of Whites and the largest proportions of Black, Hispanic, and Asian people of all the HSRs.
- The Western HSR has the second largest proportion of Hispanics of all the HSRs, after the Boston HSR, at 10%, and the second largest proportion of Blacks at 5%.
- The Metrowest HSR has the second largest proportion of Asians, after the Boston HSR, at 6%.
- The Southeast HSR has the largest proportion of Whites of all the HSRs, at 89%.

Table 1.4 Total non-US Born Population: MA and US ^{1,2} <i>2000 Census Data</i>		
Total non-US Born Population:	MA	US
Total non-US born population count	772,983	31,107,889
Percent of total population who are non-US born	12%	11%
Total non-US Born by Region of Birth:	MA	US
Europe	32%	16%
Asia	26%	26%
Africa	6%	3%
Latin America ³	30%	52%
Central America	6%	36%
South America	9%	6%
Caribbean	15%	10%
Other Regions	6% ⁴	3% ⁴
¹ Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census: SF3, Table P21 and PCT19 ² Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census: SF3, Table Dp-2 and QTP-15 ³ Latin America = Central America, South American, and Caribbean ⁴ Other regions include: Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Born at Sea, and Unreported		

- In 2000 there were 772,983 Massachusetts residents who were born outside of the United States. This is a 35% increase since 1990 (N=573,733). The proportion of Massachusetts residents born outside the United States increased from 10% in 1990 to 12% in 2000.
- Among non-US born Massachusetts residents, 6% are from Africa compared to 3% of non-US born residents in the US as a whole.



- Thirty-two percent of non-US born Massachusetts residents are from Europe.
- Almost one-third (30%) of non-US born Massachusetts residents are from Latin America and another one-fifth (20%) are from Asia.
- Of Latin American-born Massachusetts residents, the majority are from the Caribbean (48%) with smaller numbers from South and Central America (30% and 22%, respectively).

Table 1.5 Educational Attainment by Gender and Race Ethnicity for Persons 25 Years of Age and Older: MA and US 2000 Census Data		
	MA %	US %
Percent Who Completed High School	85%	80%
By Gender:		
Male	85%	80%
Female	85%	81%
By Race/Ethnicity:		
White (non-Hispanic)	87%	86%
Black (non-Hispanic)	76%	72%
Hispanic	57%	52%
Asian and Pacific Islander	76%	80%
American Indian and Alaska Native	73%	71%
Percent with Bachelor's Degree or More	33%	24%
By Gender:		
Male	35%	26%
Female	31%	23%
By Race/Ethnicity:		
White (non-Hispanic)	35%	27%
Black (non-Hispanic)	20%	14%
Hispanic	14%	10%
Asian and Pacific Islander	50%	43%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	19%	12%
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, (SF3) Tables P148A-I		

High School Diploma

- A slightly higher percentage of people completed high school in Massachusetts than in the US as a whole (85% vs. 80%).
- Disparities exist in high school completion rates by race/ethnicity. According to responses to the 2000 U.S. Census, only 57% of Hispanic residents in Massachusetts have completed high school. The rate of high school completion among Hispanics is lower than in any other primary racial and/or ethnic group. However, this disparity is less in Massachusetts than it is at the national level (57% and 52% respectively).

Bachelor's Degree or more

- Thirty-three percent of Massachusetts residents age 25 years and over have received a bachelor's degree and/or another advanced degree.
- Massachusetts has a higher percentage of college graduates than the US as a whole (33% and 24%, respectively).

Table 1.6 Housing Demographics: MA and US
2000 Census Data

	MA	US
Total Housing Units	2,621,989	115,904,941
Owner-occupied Housing Units	62%	66%
Renter-occupied Housing Units	38%	34%
Homeowner Vacancy Rate ¹	0.7%	2%
Rental Vacancy Rate ²	4%	7%

¹ Homeowner vacancy rate is the proportion of the homeowner inventory which is vacant for sale. The rate is computed with the following formula: Homeowner vacancy rate = vacant year-round units for sale / (owner-occupied units + vacant year-round units sold but awaiting occupancy + vacant year-round units for sale)

² Rental vacancy rate is the proportion of the rental inventory which is vacant for rent. The rate is computed with the following formula: rental vacancy rate = vacant year-round units for rent / (renter-occupied units + vacant year-round units rented but awaiting occupancy + vacant year-round units for rent)

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

- There are 2,621,989 housing units in the Commonwealth.
- Of the occupied Massachusetts housing units, 62% are owner occupied and 38% are renter occupied.
- The Massachusetts homeowner vacancy rate (0.7%) is very small and is one percent less than the national homeowner vacancy rate. The rental vacancy rate is also relatively small (4%) and about half that of the US as a whole.

Table 1.7 Urbanity and Rurality: MA and US
2000 Census Data

	MA		US	
Urbanity	N	%	N	%
Persons Living inside Urbanized Areas ¹	5,637,103	89%	192,338,121	68%
Persons Living inside Urbanized Clusters ²	166,348	3%	30,020,188	11%
Rurality	N	%	N	%
Persons Living inside Rural Farm Areas	6,360	0.1%	2,987,531	.01%
Persons Living inside Rural Non-Farm Areas	539,286	9%	56,076,066	20%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, SF3, Table PCT2

¹ An area consisting of a central place(s) and adjacent territory with a general population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile of land area that together have a minimum residential population of at least 50,000 people. The Census Bureau uses published criteria to determine the qualification and boundaries of urbanized areas.

² A densely settled territory that has at least 2,500 people but fewer than 50,000. New variable in Census 2000

- A greater proportion of the Massachusetts population lives in urban areas (92%) compared with the US population as a whole (79%).

Table 1.8 Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity: MA and US^{1,2} <i>2000 Census Data</i>		
	MA²	US³
White (non-Hispanic)	\$53,031	\$45,367
Black (non-Hispanic)	\$33,727	\$27,423
Hispanic ⁴	\$27,300	\$30,767
Asian and Pacific Islander	\$43,082	\$47,313
American Indian and Alaskan Native	\$36,810	\$30,599
Total Median Income	\$50,502	\$41,994
¹ Income includes both households and people as of March of the following year ² Median household income in 1999 dollars ³ Median household income in 1999 dollars. ⁴ Hispanic may be of any race other than White Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, SF3, Tables P152 I-H		

- The median household income for Massachusetts in 2000 was \$50,502, which was \$8,508 greater than the US median income.
- In 2000, White non-Hispanic Massachusetts residents had the greatest median income (\$53,031) followed by Asian and Pacific Islanders (\$43,082).

Table 1.9 Percent of Persons below the Federal Poverty Level by Race/Ethnicity: MA and US ¹
2000 Census Data

	MA	US
White (non-Hispanic)	6%	8%
Black (non-Hispanic)	21%	24%
Hispanic ²	30%	23%
Asian and Pacific Islander	16%	11%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	21%	26% ⁶
Total Percent below Poverty Level	9%	12%

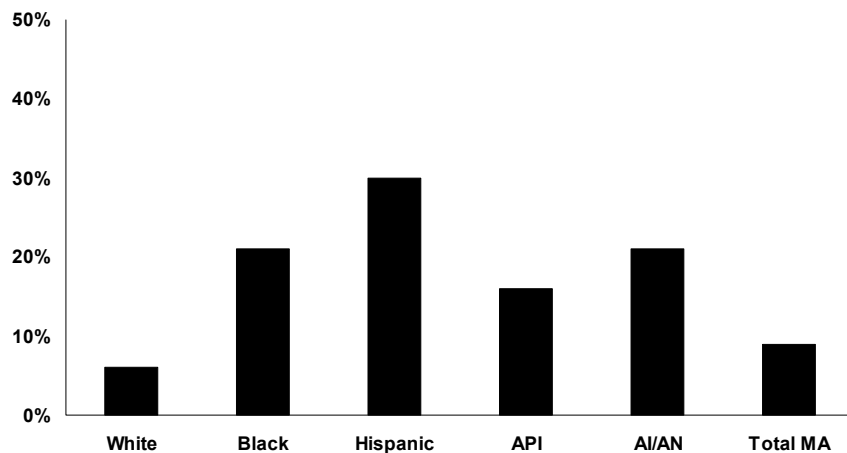
¹ Poverty by race/ethnicity is calculated for people of all ages below the Federal poverty level for whom poverty status is determined. The poverty level for an individual in 2000 was \$8,794 per year, for a family of 4 with 2 children it was \$17,463.

² Hispanic may be of any race other than White.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

- In 2000, Massachusetts had a lower percentage of people living below the Federal poverty level compared to the US (9% and 12%, respectively).

Figure 1.4 Percent of Persons Below the Federal Poverty Level by Race/Ethnicity: MA, 2000



API = Asian/Pacific Islander, AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native
 Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census

- In 2000, the percentage of racial/ethnic minority populations in poverty ranged approximately three to five times higher than that of White non-Hispanics.

Table 1.10 Massachusetts State Health Profile		
<i>2001 MA data vs. 2000 US Data</i>		
Health Status Indicator		
Deaths¹:	MA (2001)²	US (2000)³
Mortality Rate (per 100,000 residents)	818.2	873.1
Premature Mortality Rate	347.3	-- ⁴
Life Expectancy (years of life remaining at birth)	78.4	76.9
Births:	MA (2001)⁵	US (2000)⁶
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	5.0	6.9
White non-Hispanic IMR	4.1	5.7
Black non-Hispanic IMR	12.1	13.5
Hispanic IMR	7.3	5.6
Teen Birth Rate (Births per 1,000 females 15-19 years)	24.3	48.5
Prenatal Care in First Trimester	84%	83%
Health Insurance:	MA (2001)⁷	US (2000)⁸
Uninsured adults (18-64 years)	8%	15%
¹ All Death rates are comparability unmodified age-adjusted rates per 100,000 residents using the 2000 US Standard population ² MA Deaths Source: Massachusetts Deaths 2001, Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Bureau of Health Statistics, Research, and Evaluation (BHSR&E), May 2003 ³ US Deaths Source: National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 15 ⁴ Premature Mortality Rate for US not available at this time ⁵ MA Births Source: Massachusetts Births 2001, MDPH, BHSR&E, April 2003 ⁶ US Births Source: Health, United States 2002; Table 23, Table 34 ⁷ MA Health Insurance Source: "Healthy People 2010 Leading Indicators: Access to Health Care." January 2003 This table presents 2000 data for US because final 2001 data has not yet been released ⁸ U.S. Health Insurance Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), 2002 IMR = Infant Mortality Rate		

- In general, Massachusetts has better health status indicators than the US as a whole.
- In 2000, the mortality rate was 818 deaths per 100,000 population. This is below the national mortality rate of 873 deaths per 100,000 population.
- In addition, the life expectancy of Massachusetts residents from birth is longer (78.4 years) than that of the US as a whole (76.9 years).

- With regard to perinatal health indicators, Massachusetts has a low overall infant mortality rate (5.0 deaths per 1,000 live births). However, disparities exist among racial groups.
- The infant mortality rate for Black Massachusetts infants (12.1 infant deaths per 1000 live births) is nearly three times as high as for Whites (4.1/1,000 births) and more than one and half times as high as that for Hispanics (7.3/1,000 births).
- Massachusetts has one of the lowest teen birth rates in the country with 24.3 births per 1,000 women in the 15-19 year age group. This is about half the national teen birth rate.
- Over 84% of Massachusetts' pregnant women receive prenatal care in their first trimester, which is slightly greater than the national percentage.
- Regarding health insurance, Massachusetts has a lower proportion of uninsured adults than the US as a whole (8% and 15% respectively). According to the September 2003 Current Population Report, there was no significant change in Massachusetts rates of uninsured adults between 2000-2002.⁵

⁵ Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2002 (pg. 11) Current Population Reports, September 2003.

